

## Distraction Burglars and Doorstep Traders

Distraction burglars try and trick their way into your home by posing as official people, such as - council officials, utility company representatives or even the police.

Doorstep traders, or bogus callers, will try to persuade you to carry out work or repairs on your property at a very high cost. For advice on bogus callers call Consumer Direct on **08454 04 05 06**



Remember: **SOS – STAY OUT STRANGER**

Stolen property can be returned to their rightful owners thanks to a FREE property register called Immobilise. Simply log on to **www.immobilise.com** to register and create your own FREE property register and portfolio

**Home Office** In a bid to cut down on burglaries a number of DIY outlets are offering 10% - 20% off selected security products.

This is being supported by the Home Office who have also produced a **free** 'burglary prevention pack'.

For further information about the offers and to receive your free security pack call the Home Office on **0800 456 1213**

## Getting in touch

The Swindon Community Safety Partnership, like you, want to stop burglaries from happening and bring the thieves to justice. If you have any information about offenders or see something suspicious.....

### Contact

**Police** 0845 408 7000  
In an emergency 999

To remain anonymous call -



For further information and advice about home security phone 0845 408 700 and ask for the Swindon police Community Safety Team

Why not join or set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? For further information phone 01793 507864.

Swindon Community Safety Partnership  
Tel: 01793 466506  
Email: [csp@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:csp@swindon.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.swindon-csp.org.uk](http://www.swindon-csp.org.uk)

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**WHO'S  
EYEING UP  
YOUR HOUSE?**

**LOCK IT  
OR  
LOSE IT**

**Burglary crime  
prevention advice**

Keeping Swindon **Safe**

## Burglary Prevention Advice

**Fact: 90% of burglaries are opportunistic**



While home burglaries are rare, the burglar's task is often made easier by the householder's poor use of suitable locks and security devices.

A large percentage of crime is committed by the opportunist thief - when a window is left open or a door unlocked.

Swindon Community Safety Partnership is issuing crime prevention advice to help decrease the chances of residents becoming victims of burglary.

## Tips to Remember ...

**Close** and lock all your doors and windows when you go out. Pay particular attention to the back of your premises - a popular entry point for burglars

**Lock** windows and doors when you are not in the room, or you are in the garden

**Keep** valuables and keys out of view and out of reach of windows and doors

**Don't** leave door keys in hiding places such as under the doormat. Thieves know all the hiding places

**Keep** your shed and outbuildings locked. Your tools are useful to a thief who wants to gain entry

**Don't** leave a window open a few inches for ventilation when you go out

**Close** the curtains and leave a light on in a room (not the hall) if you are out all evening

**Don't** leave ladders lying around. If kept outside, padlock them to something secure

**Illuminate** dark areas around the house. Burglars don't like light!

**Don't** leave curtains and blinds drawn in the daytime - they attract the thief

**Postcode** your property with UV marker pens - having it marked helps Police verify it has been stolen



## Going on Holiday?

However keen you are to start your holiday, don't forget to take precautions to protect your property while you are away.

- Lock all your doors, windows and outbuildings
- Cancel milk, newspapers and other regular deliveries
- Ask your neighbour to adjust your curtains, and remove any post or newspapers left showing in the letter box, and put some rubbish in your dustbin bag
- Avoid discussing your holiday plans within earshot of strangers
- Tell your neighbour you will be away and give them your mobile telephone number and holiday address in case of emergency
- Cut the lawn